

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9286

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 4826

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

USCINCEUR

USNMR SHAPE

USLOSACLANT

CINCLANT

CINCUSAREUR

CINCUSNAVEUR

CINCUSAFE

S E C R E T USNATO 6893

GENEVA FOR CSCE DEL

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL NATO CA

SUBJ: DPC MINISTERIAL MEETING DECEMBER 10, 1974: STATEMENT BY
CANADIAN MOD UNDER AGENDA ITEM III, NATO FORCE PLANNING
FOR THE PERIOD 1975-1979

MISSION HAS OBTAINED INFORMALLY FROM CANADIAN DELEGATION TEXT
OF STATEMENT WHICH MOD RICHARDSON DELIVERED ORALLY TO DPC MINIS-
TERS UNDER AGENDA ITEM III, NATO FORCE PLANNING FOR THE PERIOD
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1975-1979.

BEGIN TEXT:

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN:

I WELCOME THIS OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH NATO DEFENCE MINISTERS ONCE AGAIN, I RECALL THE FIRST OPPORTUNITY I HAD TO MEET WITH YOU IN DECEMBER 1972. AT THAT TIME WE WERE A MINORITY GOVERNMENT IN CANADA AND I AM PLEASED TO REMIND YOU TODAY THAT ELECTIONS WERE HELD IN OUR COUNTRY THIS SUMMER AND I AM HERE TODAY AS PART OF PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU'S MAJORITY GOVERNMENT.

DURING RECENT MONTHS, AND PARTICULARLY IN RECENT WEEKS, I HAVE BEEN INVOLVED, AS I EXPECT ALL OF MY COLLEAGUES HAVE, WITH THE PROBLEM OF HOW TO FINANCE THE DEFENCE PROGRAM IN DAYS OF RAPIDLY RISING PRICES. DECISIONS HAVE VERY RECENTLY BEEN TAKEN BY THE CANADIAN CABINET CONCERNING THE RECOMMENDATIONS THAT I HAVE MADE ABOUT OUR DEFENCE BUDGET AND I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OCCASION TO ADVISE THIS MEETING OF THE CONCLUSIONS THAT WE HAVE REACHED.

DURING THE CURRENT YEAR, 1974-1975, OUR EXPENDITURES FOR NATIONAL DEFENCE WILL TOTAL 2,507,000,000 DOLLARS WHICH IS 276,000,000 MILLION DOLLARS MORE THAN WE SPENT FOR NATIONAL DEFENCE LAST YEAR AND REPRESENTS A 12.4 PERCENT INCREASE IN CANADA'S DEFENCE SPENDING.

LOOKING TO THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR 1975-76 THE CANADIAN CABINET HAS AGREED THAT WE CAN INCREASE OUR EXPENDITURES, ONCE AGAIN, BY MORE THAN 280,000,000 MILLION DOLLARS ABOVE THE TWO-AND-A-HALF BILLION DOLLAR FIGURE SPENT THIS YEAR. THIS REPRESENTS A 11.2 PERCENT INCREASE OVER THIS YEAR'S EXPENDITURES.

I MIGHT SAY, FOR THOSE WHO RECALL THE FINANCING FORMULA WHICH WE PROPOSED, AS THE MEANS FOR FINANCING THE CANADIAN DEFENCE PROGRAM MORE THAN A YEAR AGO, THAT THE FIGURE FOR NEXT YEAR, WHICH I AM ANNOUNCING TO YOU TODAY, IS IN EXCESS OF 300,000,000 DOLLARS MORE THAN THE PROPOSED EXPENDITURES ANNOUNCED JUST 12 MONTHS AGO.

I BELIEVE IT WILL BE EVIDENT FROM THESE FACTS, AND FROM THE FIGURES THAT I HAVE JUST ANNOUNCED, THAT ANY REPORTS ABOUT CUTBACKS IN THE CANADIAN DEFENCE BUDGET ARE ERRONEOUS.

WHEN IT IS REALIZED THAT THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT, LIKE OTHER GOVERNMENTS, IS ATTEMPTING TO ACHIEVE RESTRAINT IN ITS OVERALL EXPENDITURES IT WILL BE PARTICULARLY EVIDENT FROM THE FIGURES THAT I HAVE GIVEN YOU, THAT OUR GOVERNMENT IS GIVING
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A HIGH PRIORITY TO THE CANADIAN ARMED FORCES AND TO OUR TOTAL DEFENCE PROGRAM.

OF MOST PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE TO NATO PARTNERS, I WOULD LIKE TO POINT OUT, THAT WE HAVE PLANNED TO MAINTAIN AT CURRENT STRENGTH OUR FORCES STATIONED IN EUROPE, AND ALSO THEIR SUPPORT IN CANADA.

WE ARE OF COURSE ALSO ENGAGED IN CONSIDERING FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR DEFENCE PROGRAM IN THE YEARS AFTER 1975-76. MY CENTRAL PURPOSE WILL BE TO INCREASE COST EFFECTIVENESS WHEREVER POSSIBLE, AND TO MAINTAIN THE OPERATIONAL STRENGTH OF THE CANADIAN FORCES. PARTICULARLY IT WILL BE ONE OF MY OBJECTIVES TO INCREASE THE SHARE OF OUR DEFENCE BUDGET DEVOTED TO NEW EQUIPMENT AS THIS WILL OF COURSE IMPROVE OUR MILITARY CAPABILITY.

IN THIS CONNECTION I AM PLEASED TO BE ABLE TO INFORM YOU THAT NEXT YEAR OUR EXPENDITURES FOR CAPITAL EQUIPMENT WILL TOTAL \$350,000,000 WHICH REPRESENTS A 30 PERCENT INCREASE IN EXPENDITURES ON CAPITAL EQUIPMENT OVER THIS YEAR.

THIS INDICATES A TREND IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION, AS FAR AS I AM CONCERNED, BECAUSE I HAVE MADE IT VERY CLEAR ON A NUMBER OF OCCASIONS THAT ONE OF MY MAIN OBJECTIVES AS MINISTER OF NATIONAL DEFENCE IS TO INCREASE THE PERCENTAGE OF OUR TOTAL BUDGET THAT IS USED TO PURCHASE NEW CAPITAL EQUIPMENT.

AT THIS TIME I AM ALSO PLEASED TO BE ABLE TO REPORT THAT WE HAVE MADE SOME PROGRESS IN THE PROVISION OF TRAINING FACILITIES IN CANADA TO BE USED BY NATO FORCES.

WE HAVE CONCLUDED AGREEMENTS FOR THE OPERATIONAL TRAINING IN CANADIAN TRAINING AREAS OF GERMAN ARMoured AND ARTILLERY UNITS, AND OF BRITISH LAND AND AIR UNITS. WE HAVE ALSO PROVIDED FOR THE AIR-CREW TRAINING OF PERSONNEL OF THE NETHERLANDS AIR FORCE.

IT MAY BE APPROPRIATE FOR ME TO REMIND MY COLLEAGUES AROUND THIS TABLE THAT IN CANADA WE HAVE TRAINING ESTABLISHMENTS FOR INDIVIDUAL AND OPERATIONAL TRAINING WHICH, WITHIN THEIR PRESENT CAPACITY, OR WITH SOME EXPANSION OF CAPACITY, MIGHT SUITABLY BE USED FOR ADDITIONAL TRAINING OF MEMBERS OF OUR ALLIED FORCES.

I WOULD LIKE THEREFORE ONCE AGAIN TO EXPRESS CANADA'S WILLINGNESS TO ENTER INTO BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS FOR THE USE OF CANADIAN TRAINING FACILITIES BY NATO FORCES, ON THE SAME BASIS AS NOW IN EFFECT.

ONE AREA OF DIFFICULTY, MR. CHAIRMAN, WHICH IS A SEPARATE ITEM ON OUR AGENDA, CONCERNS PRODUCTION SHARING ARRANGEMENTS
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FOR THE NATO INTEGRATED COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM. I WISH ONLY AT THIS TIME TO RECORD MY CONCERN ABOUT THE WAY THE NEGOTIATIONS HAVE GONE UP TO THIS TIME, AND I INTEND TO SPEAK MORE FULLY TO THIS POINT WHEN THE MATTER OF INFRASTRUCTURE COMES UP ON OUR AGENDA LATER TODAY.

AS A FINAL THOUGHT, MR. CHAIRMAN, AS I HAVE IN PAST YEARS, I WOULD LIKE TO ASK OTHER DEFENCE MINISTERS, WHENEVER THEY ARE CONSIDERING THE CONTRIBUTION THAT CANADA MAKES TO NATO, AND TO THE DETERRENT THAT CONTINUES TO MAINTAIN PEACE IN THE WORLD, THAT THEY GIVE MORE THOUGHT TO OUR GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION AND PARTICULARLY TO THE SIZE OF OUR LAND MASS.

WE CONTINUE TO REGARD EUROPE AS OUR FIRST LINE OF DEFENCE, BUT WE MUST AT THE SAME TIME PROVIDE DEFENCE RESOURCES FOR THE PROTECTION AND SURVEILLANCE OF OUR VAST NORTHERN REGIONS AND, AS OF COURSE YOU KNOW, WE PARTICIPATE ACTIVELY AND I BELIEVE EFFECTIVELY WITH THE UNITED STATES IN THE DEFENCE OF NORTH AMERICA. WE ARE THEREFORE INVOLVED IN ALL THREE MAJOR REGIONS OF THE ALLIANCE: EUROPE, NORTH ATLANTIC AND NORTH AMERICA.

ONLY LAST WEEK I WAS ON BOARD THE ATHABASKAN, WHICH IS ONE OF OUR FOUR NEW TURBINE-POWERED HELICOPTER-CARRYING DESTROYERS. THIS VISIT TO THE NORTH ATLANTIC REMINDED ME, AS I HOPE MY REMARKS WILL REMIND YOU, THAT WE ARE JOINED TOGETHER IN AN

ALLIANCE THAT IS CALLED THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION, AND THAT CANADIAN SHIPS, THAT ARE AMONG THE MOST MODERN IN THE WORLD ARE PATROLLING THE NORTH ATLANTIC ON BEHALF OF OUR JOINT COMMITMENT TO COLLECTIVE SECURITY.

IN ADDITION WE CONTINUE TO PROVIDE, LARGELY AT OUR COST, MORE THAN 2,000 CANADIAN PERSONNEL ON PEACEKEEPING DUTY, IN CYPRUS, AND IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

DURING THE COURSE OF THIS YEAR, AT THE REQUEST OF THE UNITED NATIONS, WE DOUBLED THE SIZE OF OUR PEACEKEEPING FORCES ON CYPRUS, AND WE JOINED, AT ITS INCEPTION THIS YEAR, THE UNITED NATIONS DISENGAGEMENT OBSERVATION FORCES ON THE GOLAN HEIGHTS.

LAST MONTH I WAS ABLE TO VISIT OUR PERSONNEL ON PEACEKEEPING DUTY IN CYPRUS, EGYPT, SYRIA AND ISRAEL; AND I AM PERSONALLY CONVINCED THAT ALONG WITH ALL ELSE WE DO, THAT OUR PEACEKEEPING DUTIES CONTINUE TO CONTRIBUTE TO INTERNATIONAL STABILITY - AN OBJECTIVE WHICH WE ALL SHARE, AND WORK TOWARDS, AS NATO PARTNERS. END TEXT. BRUCE

SECRET

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